AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)**: A method for locating difficult access points on a topological map using discontinuities between curvilinear distances of neighboring points, the method comprises the steps of:

scanning points on a map of curvilinear distances, using reliefs only crossable by detour trajectories;

reading estimated value DT(0) of the curvilinear distance assigned, in the map of curvilinear distances, to a point C_{00} under analysis;

determining a Euclidean distance C(V) separating a point V under investigation, from the point C_{00} under analysis using a chamfer mask distance transform;

determining an estimated value DT(V) of the curvilinear distance assigned, in the map of curvilinear distances, to the point V under investigation;

calculating an absolute value of any discrepancy between the estimated values of the curvilinear distances, DT(0) and DT(V), with the determined Euclidean distance C(V);

determining a difficulty of access of the point C_{00} under analysis based upon an inequality of the absolute value calculated and the determined Euclidean distance C(V); and

rendering a display of a map indicating difficult access points~~from a reference point on a topological map established on the basis of a map of estimated curvilinear distances separating the points of the topological map from the reference point, comprising the steps of:~~

~~analyzing the map of curvilinear distances by means of a chamfer mask~~

~~cataloging the approximate values C(V) of the Euclidean distances by separating a point C_{00} of the map from its nearest neighbors V, so as to extract therefrom, at each point C_{00} of the map of curvilinear distances, the discrepancies (DT(V)-DT(0)) of curvilinear distances separating the point considered C_{00} from its nearest neighbors V;~~

~~comparing the discrepancies (DT(V)-DT(0)) with the approximate values C(V) of the Euclidean distances of the chamfer mask; and~~

~~describing the point considered C_{00} as difficult of access when a difference appears~~.

2. (**Currently Amended**): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein determining a difficulty of access and transforming the point C_{00} under analysis based upon an inequality of the absolute value calculated and the determined Euclidean distance C(V) includes using several thresholds ~~are used during the comparison of the discrepancies of curvilinear distances and Euclidean distances, so as to~~ devise degrees determine a degree of importance ~~in the importance of~~ ~~the detour~~a detour required to reach a difficult access point.

3. (**Currently Amended**): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the difficult access points of the map ~~of curvilinear distances that are regarded as difficult of access~~ are ~~located on the topological map~~ established on the basis of the map of curvilinear distances by a pattern and/or a particular texture.

4. (**Currently Amended**): The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the degrees in the importance of the detour required of a difficult access point are ~~evidenced~~ indicated on the topological map by different patterns and/or textures.

5. (**Currently Amended**): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the chamfer mask used ~~for the locating of~~ for locating the difficult access points is of dimension 3×3.

6. (**Currently Amended**): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the chamfer mask used for ~~the locating of the~~locating the difficult access points is of dimension 5×5.